offered under future ERLP and/or open acreage Rounds. ONGC's strategy to achieve oil and gas production target includes:

- Optimization of production from oil and ageing fields.
- Implementation of Improved Oil Recovery (IOR)/Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) schemes in major fields.
- Putting small/marginal fields on stream.
- Improvement in global recovery factor.
- Use of cost effective and cutting edge technology.

(c) and (d) The projected programme in the Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-07) formulated by ONGC includes:

- 45853 LK/GLK of 2D seismic survey
- 38109 sq. km. of 3D seismic survey
- Drilling of 594 exploratory and 622 development wells
- Implementation of IOR schemes in 15 major fields
- Commercial application of EOR schemes in 3 fields
- Laboratory studies/Pilot testing of IOR/EOR in other fields.

Selection of dealer for Almora District

110. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 211 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th March, 2000 and state:

(a) whether the Dealer Selection Board has since been constituted;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the process of selection of distributor has since been initiated;

(d) if so, whether the application received so far will only be considered or fresh application will be invited; and

(e) by when, the process of selection of distributorship would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (e) After reconstitution of the Dealer Selection Board (DSB) and readvertisement of the location, selection for the LPG distributorship at Bhikiyasain, district Almora has since been completed by the DSB concerned.

Demand and Supply of Oil and Gas

111. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effort is being made by Government to bridge the widening gap between demand and supply of oil and natural gas in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievement made in the regard during the Ninth Five Year Plan, year-wise so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Several important steps have been taken to increase oil and gas production, which include the following:

(i) to improve the recovery factor from existing major fields by implementing Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/ Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes; in particular Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has taken up 15 fields for this purpose at an estimated investment of Rs. 10,000 crores, which would also help in accelerating oil production from these fields.

(ii) to increase exploration efforts through the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). Under the first round